



**GRANT RECIPIENT**  
CITY OF MICHIGAN CITY

**YEAR**  
2007

**COUNTY**  
LA PORTE

**CATEGORY**  
LOW COST CONSTRUCTION

**GRANT AWARD**  
\$100,000

**LOCAL SHARE**  
\$184,000



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Lake Michigan Coastal Program  
1600 N 25 E  
Chesterton, IN 46304  
(219) 983-9912  
[www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich](http://www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich)

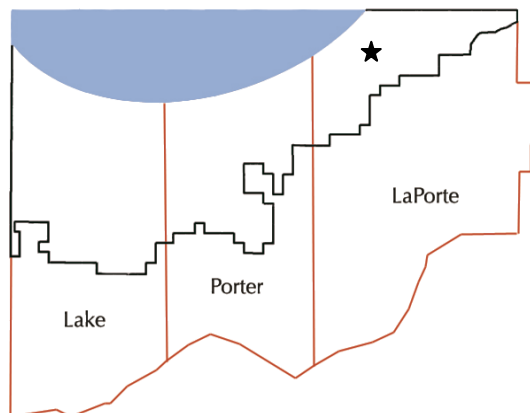


## Karwick Nature Park Bridge over Trail Creek

In 2000, Michigan City developed a vision to reclaim the use of a former city garbage dump from the 1960's and provide access via a bridge over Trail Creek to 13 additional acres of natural forest owned by Michigan City along the banks of Trail Creek.

This 23 acre City-owned parcel is bisected by the Trail Creek waterway. The western half is landlocked by the Norfolk-Western Railway, CSX Railway, Cheney Run Ditch and Trail Creek itself. The inaccessibility of the western half of the parcel has spared these 12 acres from development over the past several decades and is a rare gem of pristine, undisturbed, natural wildlife habitat near the geographic center of Michigan City. The eastern half of the parcel was a city garbage dump for many years in the 1960's.

The stark dichotomy of past land uses, garbage dump versus undisturbed wildlife habitat, for these two areas that are literally "across the creek" from one another present a one-of-kind opportunity: a bridge with a duality of purpose that not only transports visitors across Trail Creek, but also provides an aesthetic visual bridge to the cultural and environmental significance of natural resource preservation. The bridge across Trail Creek from Karwick Nature Park to 12 acres of an Area of Particular Concern will extend public access providing both passive recreation and significant educational opportunities for the nearby Krueger Middle School students that are within walking distance to this 23 acre site.



**RESULT:** Created recreation access to 12 acres of woodland by constructing a bridge over Trail Creek.